GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:137
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2003
BHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY
BASUDEB ACHARIA;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have served a long-pending noticeon the US Government to extradite the former Union Carbide Chairman, Warren Anderson, the prime accused of 1984 gas disaster in Bhopal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government are aware of the problems being faced by the widows of the victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy;

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(f) whether any relief is proposed to be given to the gas tragedy victims and particularly their widows; and

(g) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.137 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.7.2003

(a) & (b): The Government have forwarded the extradition request in respectof Warren Anderson on May 6, 2003 to the Embassy of India, Washington. The Embassy of India, Washington, has forwarded the extradition request tothe US Department of State & US Department of Justice.

(c) to (g): According to information received from the State Government ofMadhya Pradesh, the widows of Bhopal gas victims are beneficiaries of various relief programmes undertaken by the State Government since 1984. In addition, all the Bhopal gas victims including widows have been suitably compensated by the office of the Welfare Commissioner as per merit of each individual case. Till the disposal of their compensation claim, these widows were also provided onetime ex-gratia payment of Rs.10, 000/- as well as monthly pension by the State Government. The State Government has also provided all such widows free flats.